

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02813 070145Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2456
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02813

EXDIS

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SWAPO RESPONSE TO PROPOSED MEETING
WITH CONTACT GROUP IN LUANDA

1. ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 5 AMBASSADOR MCHENRY SENT A
LETTER, ON BEHALF OF THE FIVE, TO SWAPO UN REPRESENTATIVE
GURIRAB CONFIRMING THE FIVE'S PROPOSAL OF A MEETING
OF THE CONTACT GROUP WITH SWAPO PRESIDENT NUJOMA
AND HIS DELEGATION ON JULY 10-12 IN LUANDA. LATE IN
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PAGE 02 USUN N 02813 070145Z

THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 6 MCHENRY RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING
REPLY.

BEGIN TEXT OF LETTER:
DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR,

- I ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER DATED 5 JULY

1978.

- I TALKED TODAY AT 1:15 P.M. WITH COMRADE NUJOMA IN LUANDA. HE WISHES ME TO CONVEY THUS:

- IN ESSENCE HE IS AGREED TO THE RESUMPTION OF THE TALKS AS PROPOSED, EXCEPT FOR THE DATES? OUR OWN DELEGATION HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO LUANDA.

- HOWEVER, WHILE HE APPRECIATED THE URGENCY, THE TIME FACTOR AND THE DIFFICULTIES OF FLIGHT CONNECTIONS TO LUANDA, HE FEELS STRONGLY THAT ABOUT FOUR OF OUR COLLEAGUES (WHOSE NAMES WILL BE SUBMITTED PRESUMABLY TO THE FRENCH IN LUANDA) FROM INSIDE NAMIBIA SHOULD JOIN OUR DELEGATION.

- CONCERNING THEIR TRAVEL FROM NAMIBIA, HE HOPES THAT YOUR GOVERNMENTS WILL ASSIST US IN THE USUAL MANNER.

- IT IS SINGULARLY THIS MATTER WHICH MAY POSE DIFFICULTY WITH THE DATES OF 10-12 JULY.

- I DO NOT PERSONALLY SEE MUCH DIFFICULTY IN MEETING THE DATES STILL IF ALL OF US CO-OPERATE TO EXPEDITE THE MATTER.

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PAGE 03 USUN N 02813 070145Z

- SINCERELY,
THEO-BEN GURIRAB
PERMANENT OBSERVER

2. END TEXT. THE CONTACT GROUP HAS AGREED THAT, DESPITE THE SOMEWHAT TENTATIVE NATURE OF THIS RESPONSE, THE GROUP SHOULD PROCEED TO LUANDA AS SCHEDULED. (THIS WILL REQUIRE THE GROUP TO DEPART NEW YORK ON FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 7, IN ORDER TO BE IN LUANDA FOR MEETINGS JULY 10.) IN AN EFFORT TO EXPEDITE THE TRAVEL OF THE FOUR SWAPO MEMBERS FROM WINDHOEK WE HAVE INFORMED GURIRAB THAT THE FOLLOWING COMMERCIAL FLIGHT PLAN WOULD ENABLE THEM TO DEPART WINDHOEK FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 7, AND ARRIVE IN LUANDA ON SUNDAY NIGHT, JULY 9:

FRIDAY, 7/7 DEPART WINDHOEK AT 1825 HOURS ON SA FLIGHT #710
ARRIVE JOHANNESBURG AT 2110.

SATURDAY, JULY 8 DEPART JOHANNESBURG AT 1100 ON SA #172
ARRIVE BLANTYRE AT 1255
DEPART BLANTYRE AT 1340 ON QZ 511
ARRIVE LUSAKA AT 1555

SUNDAY, 7/9 DEPART LUSAKA AT 1950 ON AZ 1857
ARRIVE LUANDA AT 2135.

GURIRAB HAS ADVISED US THAT THE FOUR SWAPO MEMBERS WILL
MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MEET THAT SCHEDULE.

3. FOR PRETORIA AND JOHANNESBURG: DEPARTMENT WILL SEND
SEPTTEL CONCERNING OTHER ARRANGEMENTS. IF IT BELIEVES
IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, EMBASSY PRETORIA SHOULD SEEK
SOUTH AFRICAN COOPERATION IN ARRANGING FOR WHATEVER
EXIT PERMITS SWAPO MEMBERS REQUIRE. LEONARD

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